

May 4, 1979

LB 591

to please be reasonable on this effort and look toward the future, keep the money in there, allow them to meet some of those needs that I have had expressed to me very strongly. They are faced with some serious problems next year meeting the increases in utility bills and other factors that they feel more so than any other agency in the state and they are going to need that money just to make ends meet, I believe, and I am convinced of that. I am no University supporter down the line. I believe they have abused their powers and privileges but, gosh darnit, this isn't the way to get back at them and I think, that is as strong as I am going to get, but I think the way that you are going to get to the seriousness of the problem is to follow up on that resolution introduced by Senator Lewis to study very carefully how monies are being spent at the University presently, look at what they are doing with the money, look at that relationship that the Supreme Court has thrown up in the air and which we don't know where it is going to land because we haven't had time to adjust, to look, maybe we ought to go back to that Constitution, make a change in the Constitution and bring back that accountability to the Legislature that has been taken away by the Supreme Court decision. I suggest that that is the way to bring back to the Legislature that oversight that we need over the University but to make this cut I think at this time would be a mistake and I urge you please to oppose the Murphy-Newell amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker, I call for the previous question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. All those in favor, I see more than five hands, all those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed no. Record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate has ceased. The Chair recognizes Senator Newell to close on the amendment.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I want to explain a little bit about what this amendment does because I think it is the most important amendment that has been put on an appropriations bill. Let me explain briefly what 591 is. For those of you who do not know what 591 is, it is supposed to be the rival bill to the medicaid payments that Senator Goodrich and Senator Kahle offered. This is the bill that you are supposed to vote for instead of that bill. These are additional monies. Now it has a lot of